

MARVEL KNIGHTS

MARVEL
PSR

4

DAVID

RAIMONDI


HENNESSY

REBER



MADROX™





I'VE READ THAT GOING UP
IN FLAMES IS ABSOLUTELY
THE WORST WAY TO DIE.

I'M JAMIE MADROX, THE MULTIPLE MAN,
MUTANT-TURNED-PRIVATE-DETECTIVE. AS
A SIDELINE, I SEND MY DUPES OUT INTO THE
WORLD TO LEARN THINGS AND THEN REJOIN
WITH ME SO THEIR KNOWLEDGE IS MINE.

WHERE
ARE YOU?!

THAT WAY I CAN
EXPERIENCE...WELL...
EVERYTHING.

IN THIS CASE, THOUGH,
WHEN IT COMES TO
LEARNING FIRST HAND
THE TRUTH ABOUT BEING
INCINERATED...

...IT'S ONE THING THAT
I HAVE NO BURNING
DESIRE TO EXPERIENCE.

THE BIGGER HEAT



C'MON!
C'MON! WE
GOTTA
GET OUTTA
HERE...

THAT NOISE...
I THOUGHT
I JUST HEARD...

A GUNSHOT?
WAS THAT...?



BUT...SO MUCH
WOOD BREAKING.
MIGHT'VE BEEN A--



SON OF
A--!



UNTHH!



WHA-
WHAT AM
I...DOING
HERE?

YOU'RE ONE
OF MY DUPE! THE
IMPACT FROM THE
BEAM...MADE YOU,
JUST NOW!
NOW PULL
ME OUT FROM
UNDER HERE!



THERE'S...
THERE'S NO
TIME!

I
CAN'T!
I...



WONDERFUL. I MUST'VE MADE A
DUPE WHO'S THE INCARNATION OF
MY SENSE OF SELF-PRESERVATION...

...AND NATURALLY ALL
HE CARES ABOUT IS
SAVING HIS OWN BUTT.



SMOKE...EVERY-
WHERE...NEED...TO
MAKE...ANOTHER
DUPE...

BUT CAN'T...
FOCUS...CAN'T
HIT ANY...
THING...NEED...



...he'llllp...

A FEW HOURS AGO, THIS WOULDN'T
HAVE BEEN WHERE I WOULD HAVE
PICTURED MYSELF AROUND NOW. A
FEW HOURS AGO...

⊗ A FEW HOURS AGO...

I WAS IN THE STUDY OF ED VANCE, ONE OF THE RICHEST--AND MOST CRIMINALLY CONNECTED--MEN IN CHICAGO. VANCE, WHO'D BEEN TALKING TO SOME GUY IN RUSSIAN ABOUT SOLVING HIS "MUTANT PROBLEM."

THERE WAS HIS FIANCEE, SHEILA...WITH WHOM I, OR AT LEAST A DUPE OF MINE, HAD HAD SOME SORT OF RELATIONSHIP. I'D DETERMINED THIS THROUGH MY KEEN DETECTIVE TRAINING...

...AND THE FACT THAT SHE'D RUN UP TO ME NAKED AND STUCK HER TONGUE IN MY MOUTH.

PLUS THERE WAS SOME HENCHMAN OF VANCE'S...A GUY CALLED "CLAY," WHOM I'D JUST MET...BUT HE SEEMED FAMILIAR SOMEHOW.

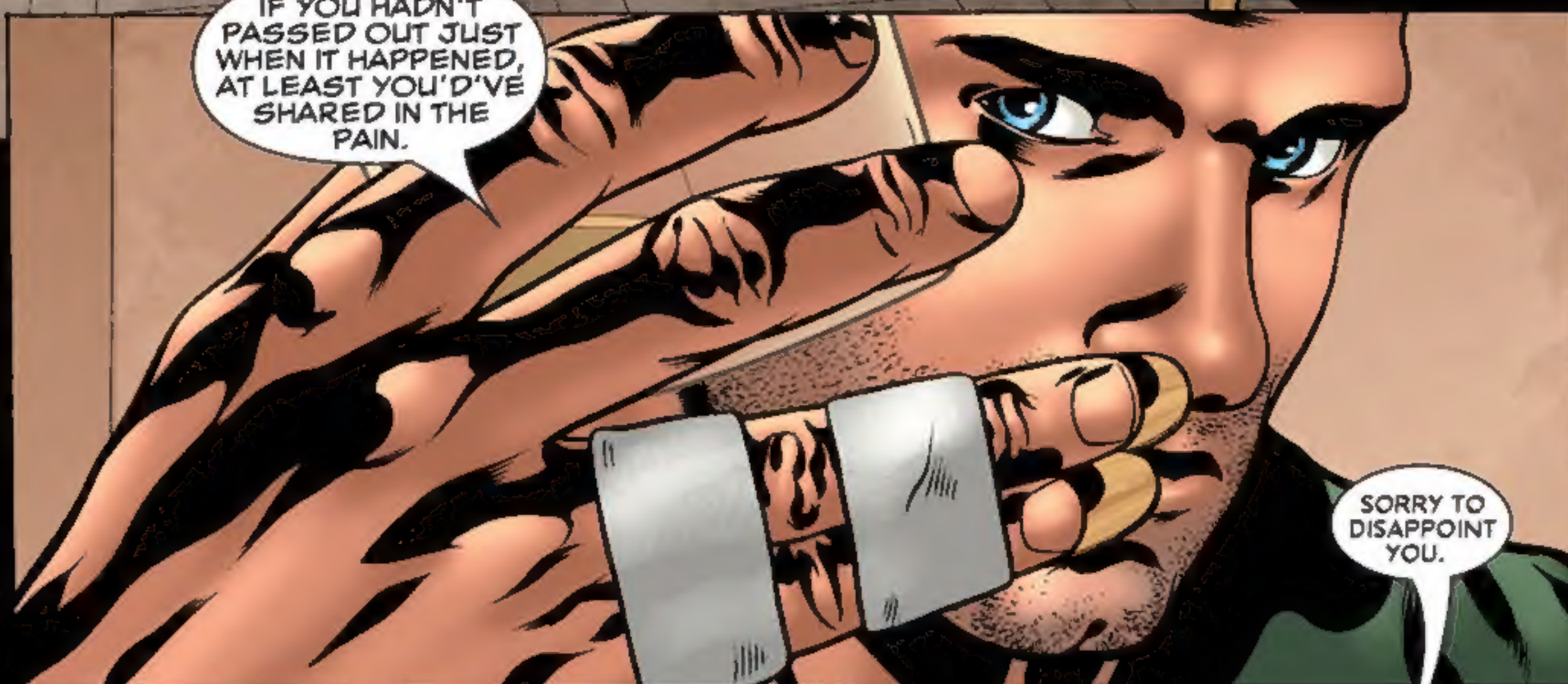
AND MOST BIZARRELY OF ALL...A DUPE OF MINE WHO, APPARENTLY...



SHOVED ME BACK UNDER! IT WAS YOU, WASN'T IT? AT THE POOL.

YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT. AND YOU BROKE MY FREAKIN' FINGERS.

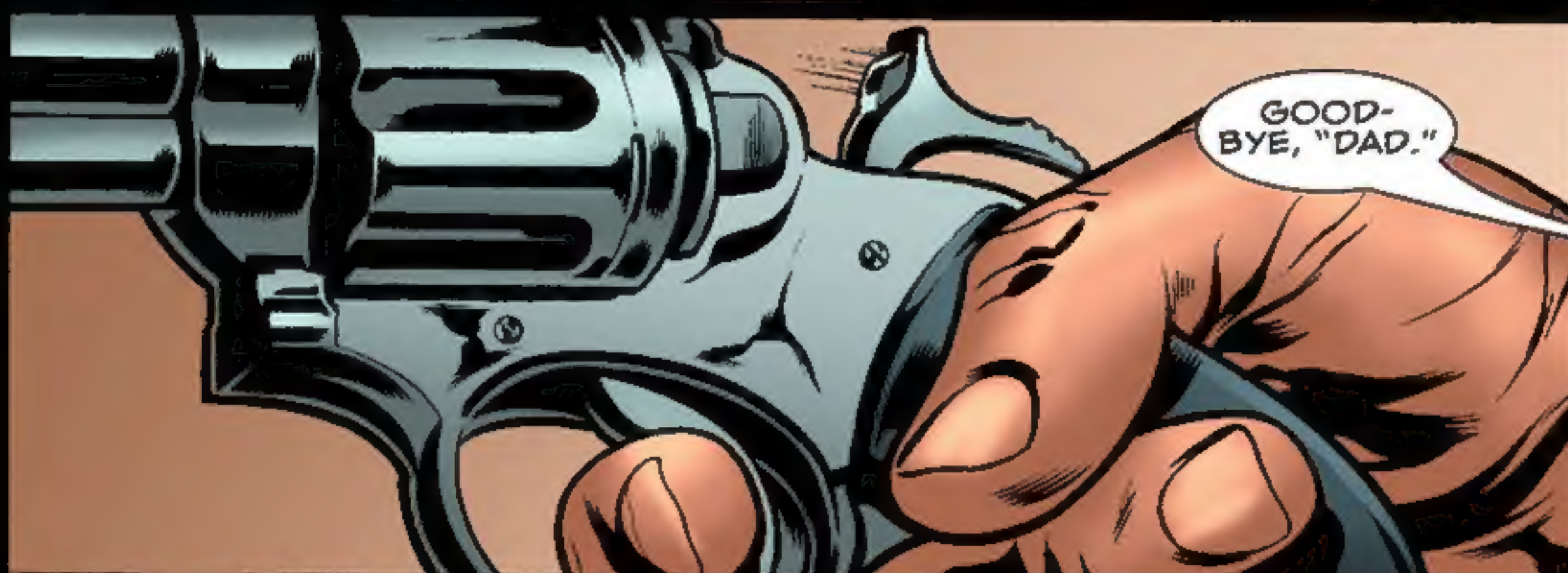
IF YOU HADN'T PASSED OUT JUST WHEN IT HAPPENED, AT LEAST YOU'D'VE SHARED IN THE PAIN.



SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU.









THE IMPACT CREATED A DUPE WHO DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO CONSIDER KILLING ME, SINCE HE WAS TOO BUSY SERVING AS A CUSHION FOR OUR FALL.



AND HITTING HIM CREATED MORE...

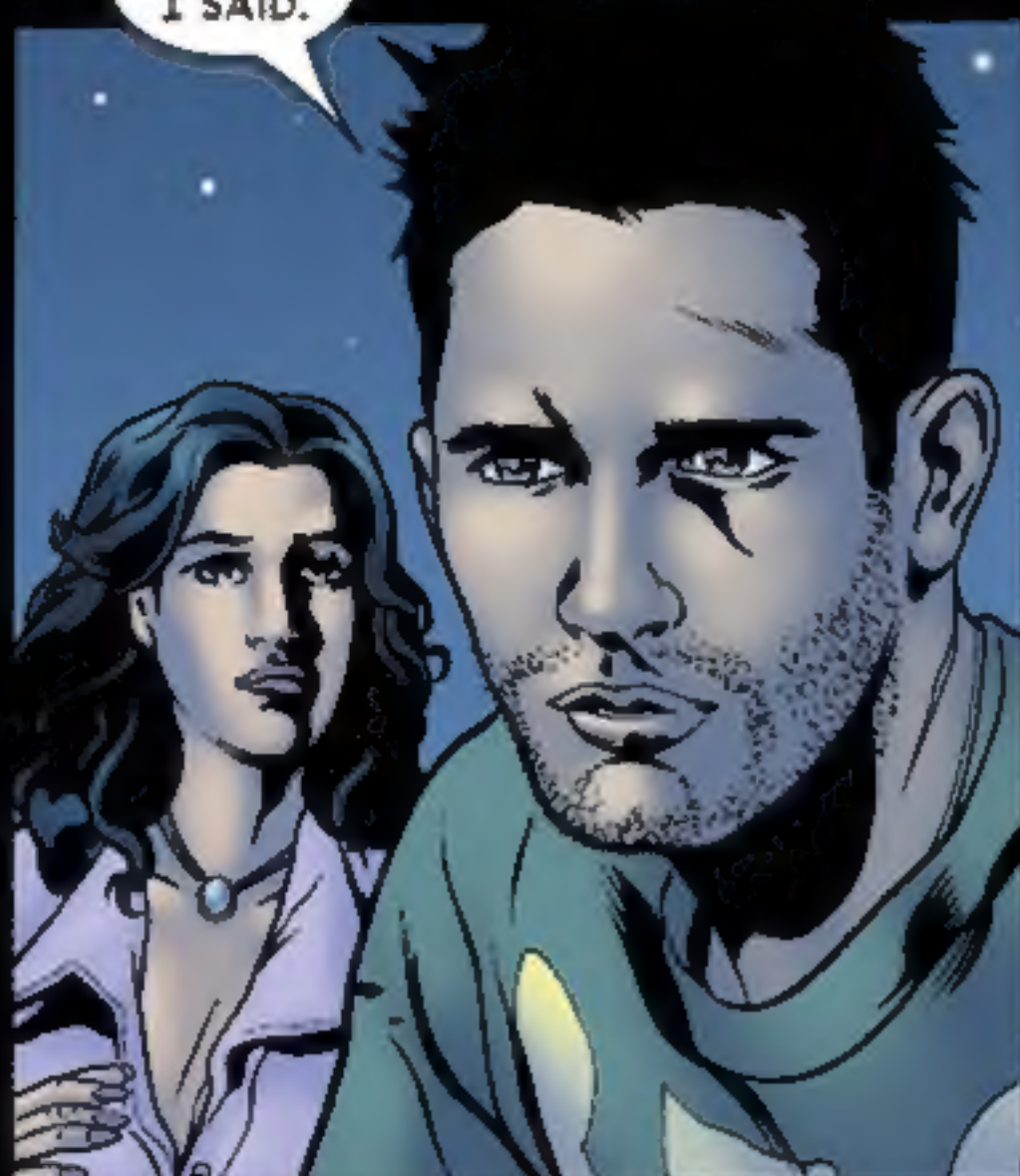
...AND MORE...
AND MORE...



I...I THINK I'M GOING TO BE SICK...

SAVE IT.

JAMES, I--



SAVE IT, I SAID.



I'D NEVER REABSORBED THAT MANY DUPES IN ONE SHOT BEFORE. IT WAS LIKE... LIKE LOOKING IN A HUNDRED DIRECTIONS AT ONCE.



JAMES!

WHOOAAA... THAT WAS...

...TRIPPY...



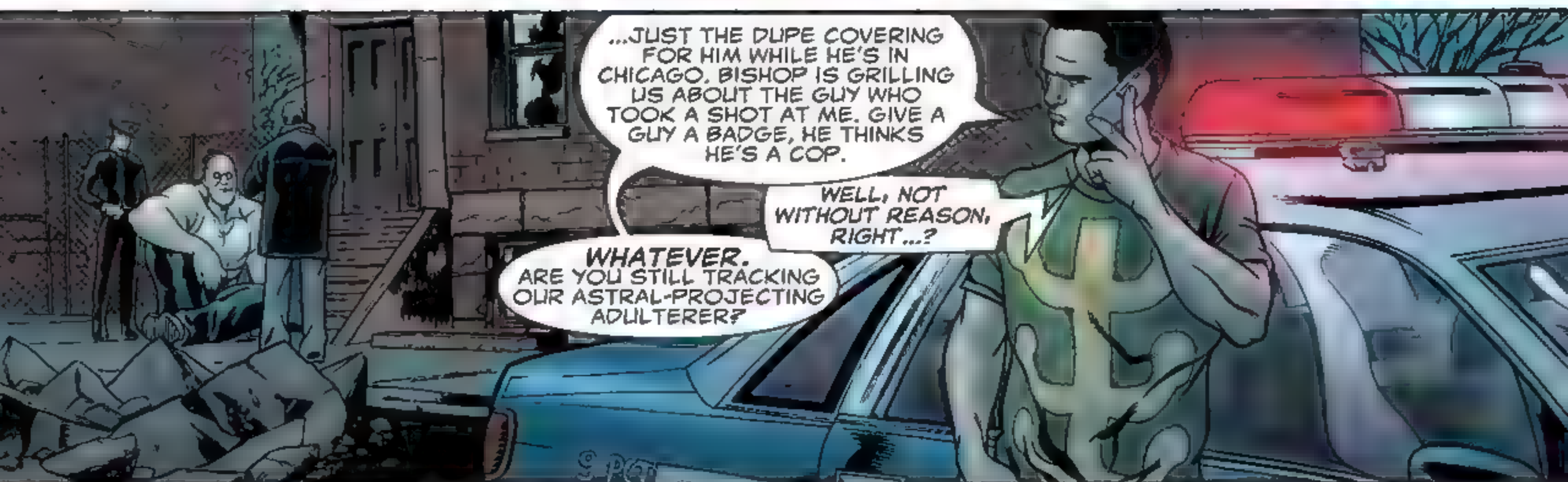
OKAY. C'MON. HOPE NOBODY TOWED MY RENTAL CAR.

LET'S GET SOME DISTANCE FROM THIS PLACE, AND THEN WE HAVE A TALK.

MUTANT TOWN,
NEW YORK

JAMIE! IS
IT THE ORIGINAL
YOU OR...?

SORRY,
NO...



...JUST THE DUPE COVERING
FOR HIM WHILE HE'S IN
CHICAGO. BISHOP IS GRILLING
US ABOUT THE GUY WHO
TOOK A SHOT AT ME. GIVE A
GUY A BADGE, HE THINKS
HE'S A COP.

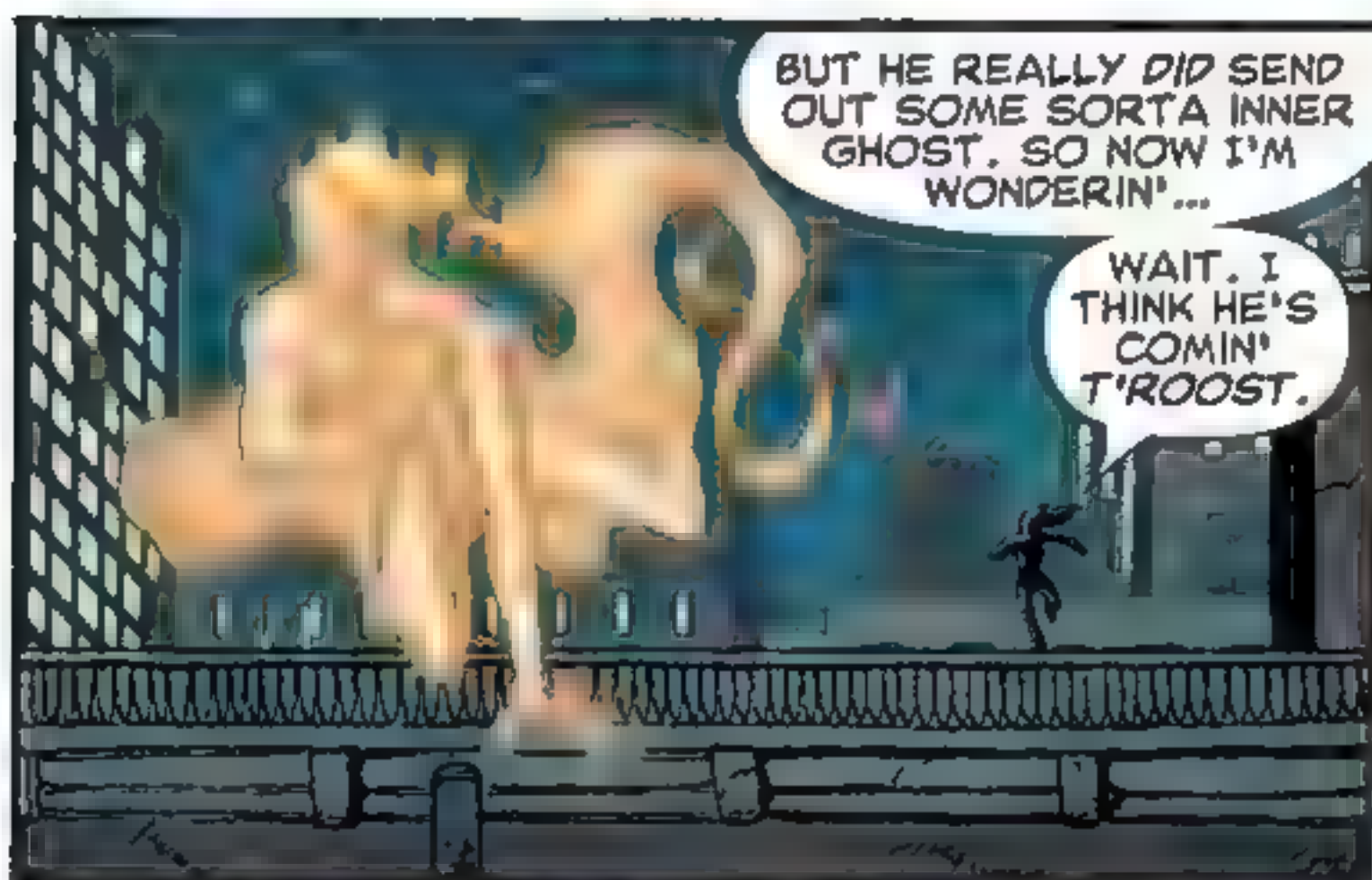
WELL, NOT
WITHOUT REASON,
RIGHT...?

WHATEVER.
ARE YOU STILL TRACKING
OUR ASTRAL-PROJECTING
ADULTERER?



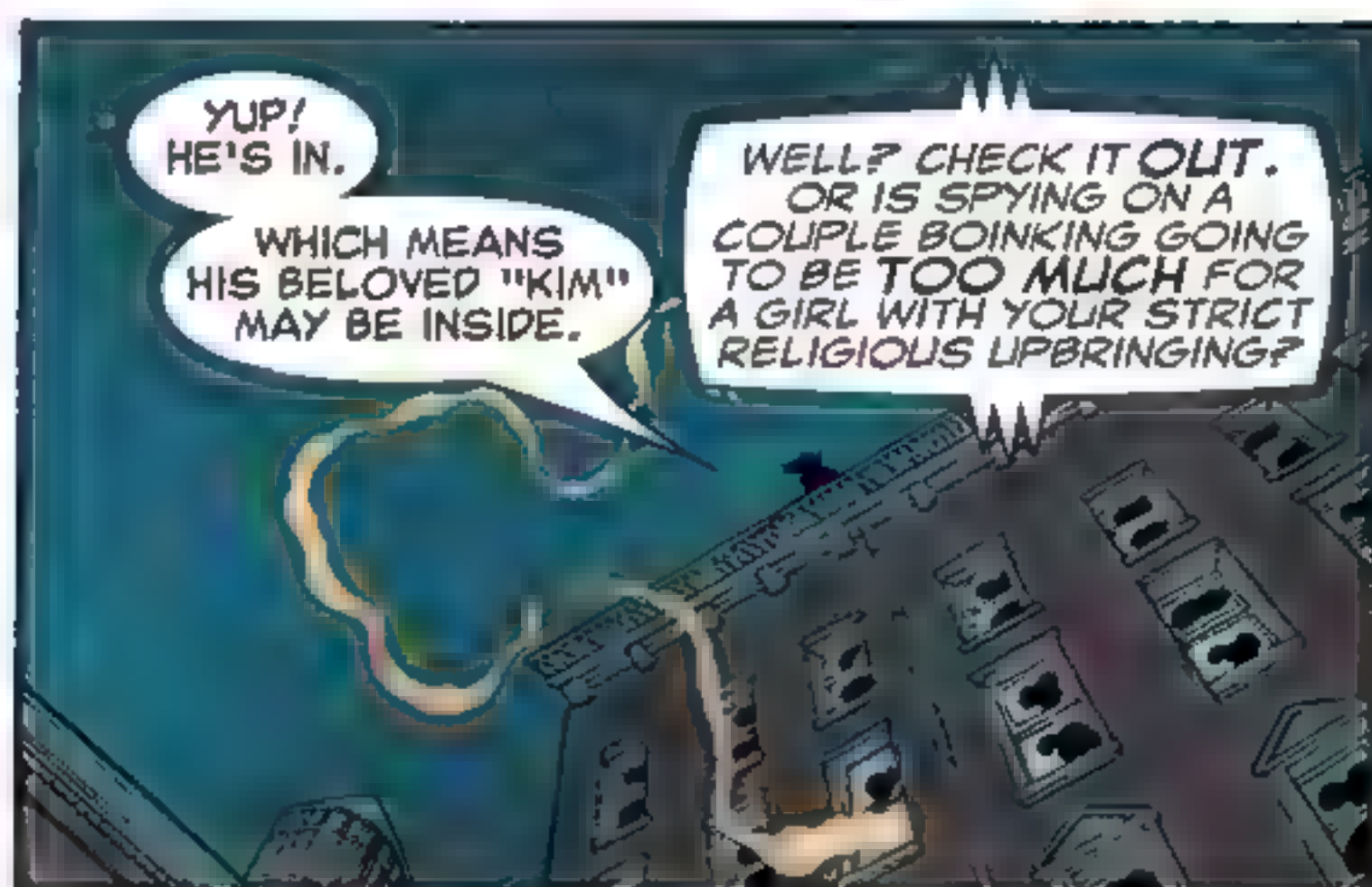
AYE. Y'KNOW, I
THOUGHT THAT MRS.
CAMPBELL WOMAN
WAS DAFT...

...THINKIN' HER
PARALYZED HUSBAND
WAS ASTRALLY CHEATIN'
ON HER 'CAUSE HE WAS
CALLIN' OUT THE NAME
"KIM" IN HIS
SLEEP.



BUT HE REALLY DID SEND
OUT SOME SORTA INNER
GHOST. SO NOW I'M
WONDERIN'...

WAIT. I
THINK HE'S
COMIN'
T'ROOST.



YUP!
HE'S IN.

WHICH MEANS
HIS BELOVED "KIM"
MAY BE INSIDE.

WELL? CHECK IT OUT.
OR IS SPYING ON A
COUPLE BOINKING GOING
TO BE TOO MUCH FOR
A GIRL WITH YOUR STRICT
RELIGIOUS UPBRINGING?



OHhh, YOU HAVEN'T SPENT A LOT O'TIME WITH ME RECENTLY, JAMIE MADROX. THINGS CHANGE.



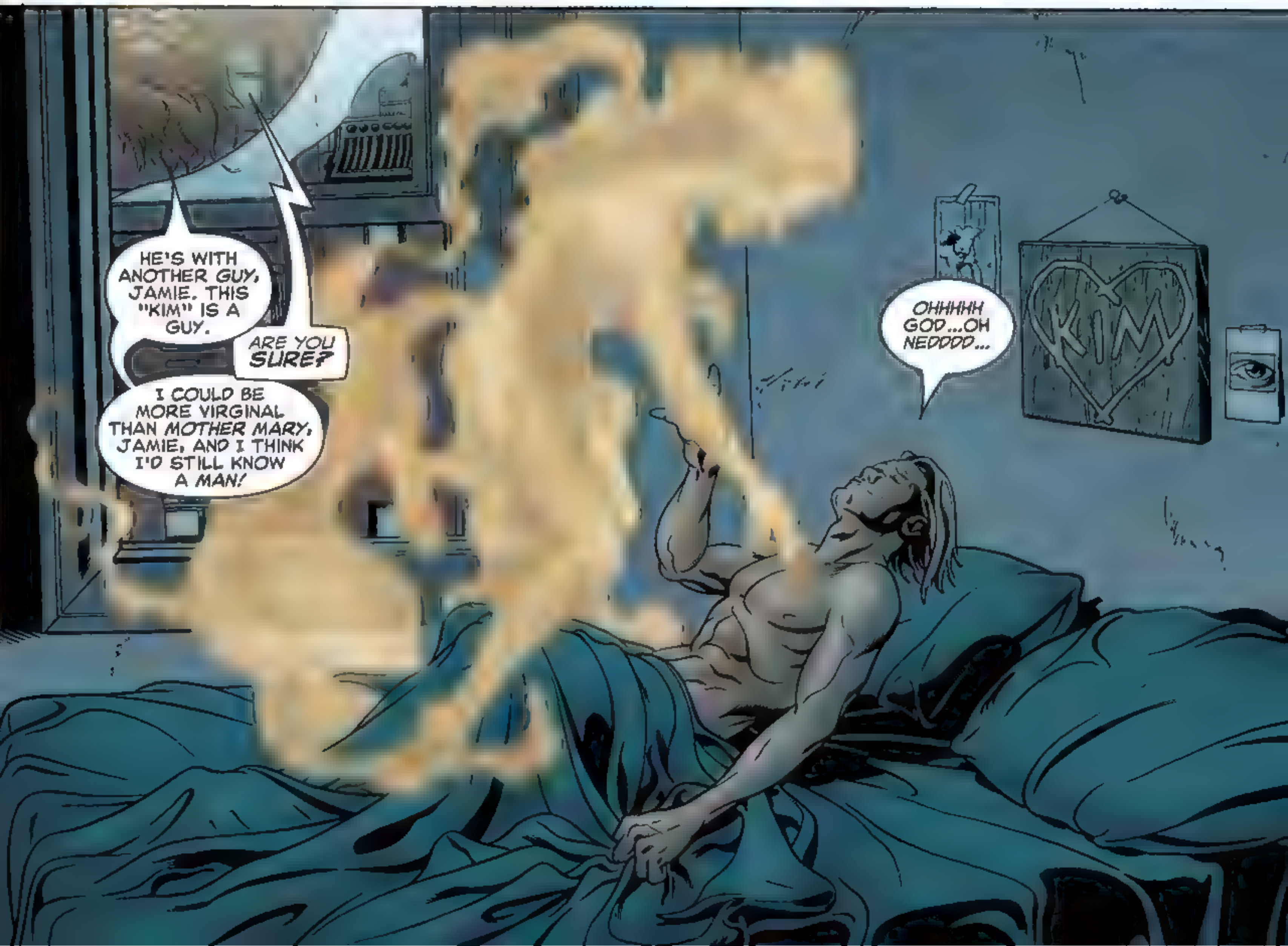
NOT YOU. YOU'LL ALWAYS BE THE SWEET, REPRESSED, VIRGINAL GIRL I REMEMBER...

BLOODY HELL!



RAHNE! RAHNE, WHAT IS IT?!

OF ALL THE--!



HE'S WITH ANOTHER GUY, JAMIE. THIS "KIM" IS A GUY.

ARE YOU SURE?

I COULD BE MORE VIRGINAL THAN MOTHER MARY, JAMIE, AND I THINK I'D STILL KNOW A MAN!

OHhhhh GOD...OH NEEDDD...!

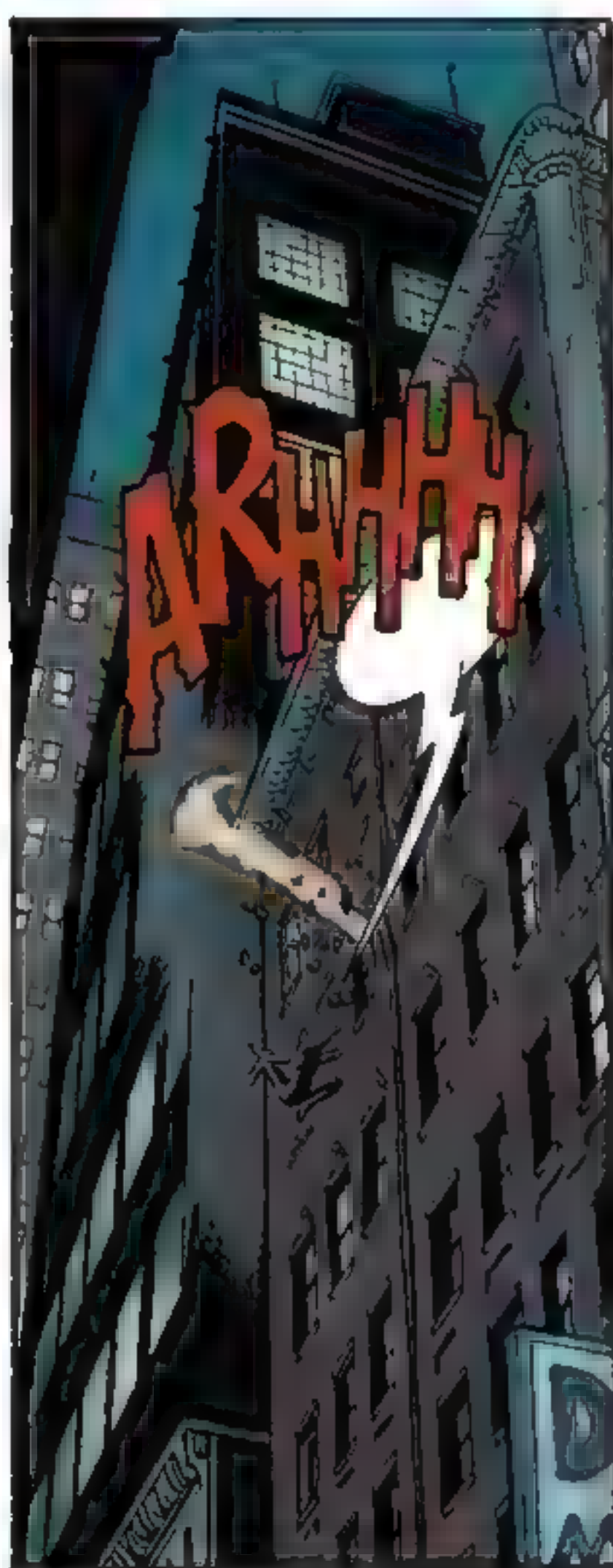


UH-OH.
HE SEES
ME.

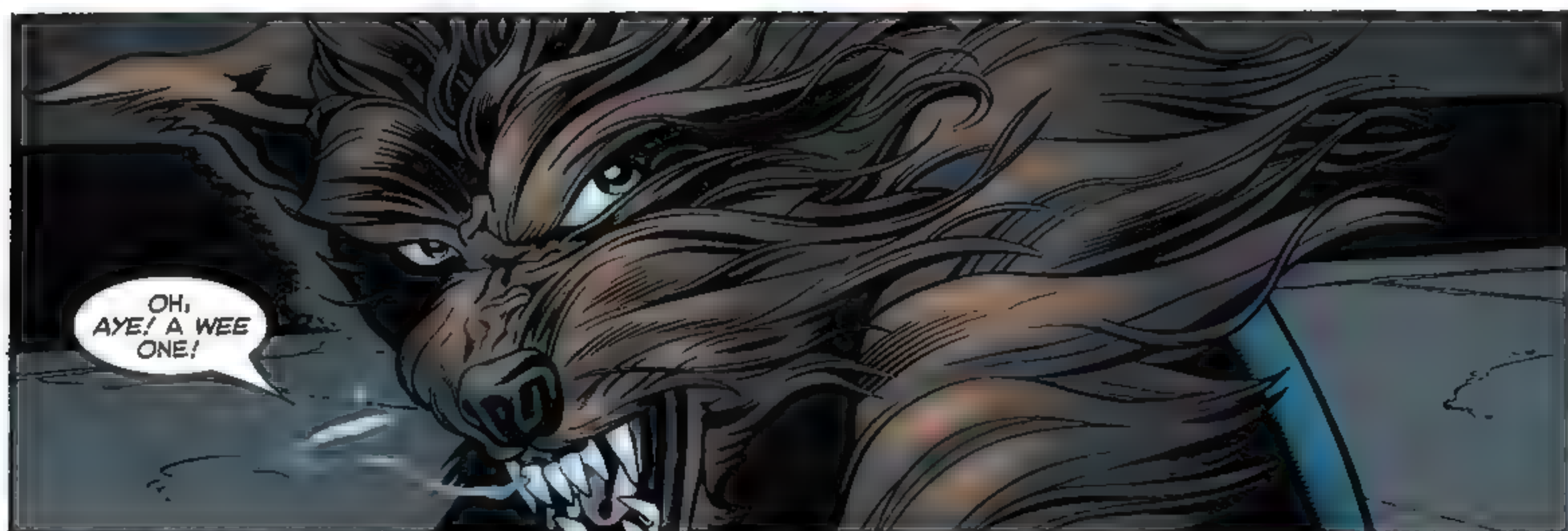


BETTER
MAKE MYSELF
SCARCE.

DON'T SWEAT IT. HE'S,
LIKE, A GHOST, RIGHT?
HE CAN'T TOUCH YOU
OR ANYTH--



WHAT? THERE
A PROBLEM?



OH,
AYE! A WEE
ONE!

CHICAGO...

LOOK, "MRS. MADROX," BEFORE THIS GETS OUT OF HAND...

...OKAY, MORE OUT OF HAND THAN IT ALREADY IS...

...THERE'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD KNOW...

I MARRIED A DUPE OF YOURS, DIDN'T I?

WHA...? YEAH. HOW DID YOU--?

WHEN I KISSED YOU, YOU SEEMED SURPRISED. HE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN.

VERY GOOD. SO WHY'D YOU LIE TO VANCE?

I DIDN'T. I MARRIED JAMES MADROX. THAT'S YOU. I...

I DON'T PRETEND TO UNDERSTAND HOW YOUR POWER WORKS, BUT...CAN YOU PRODUCE THE... THE MAN WHO LOVED ME? ROMANCED ME...?

THE MAN YOU MARRIED IS DEAD.

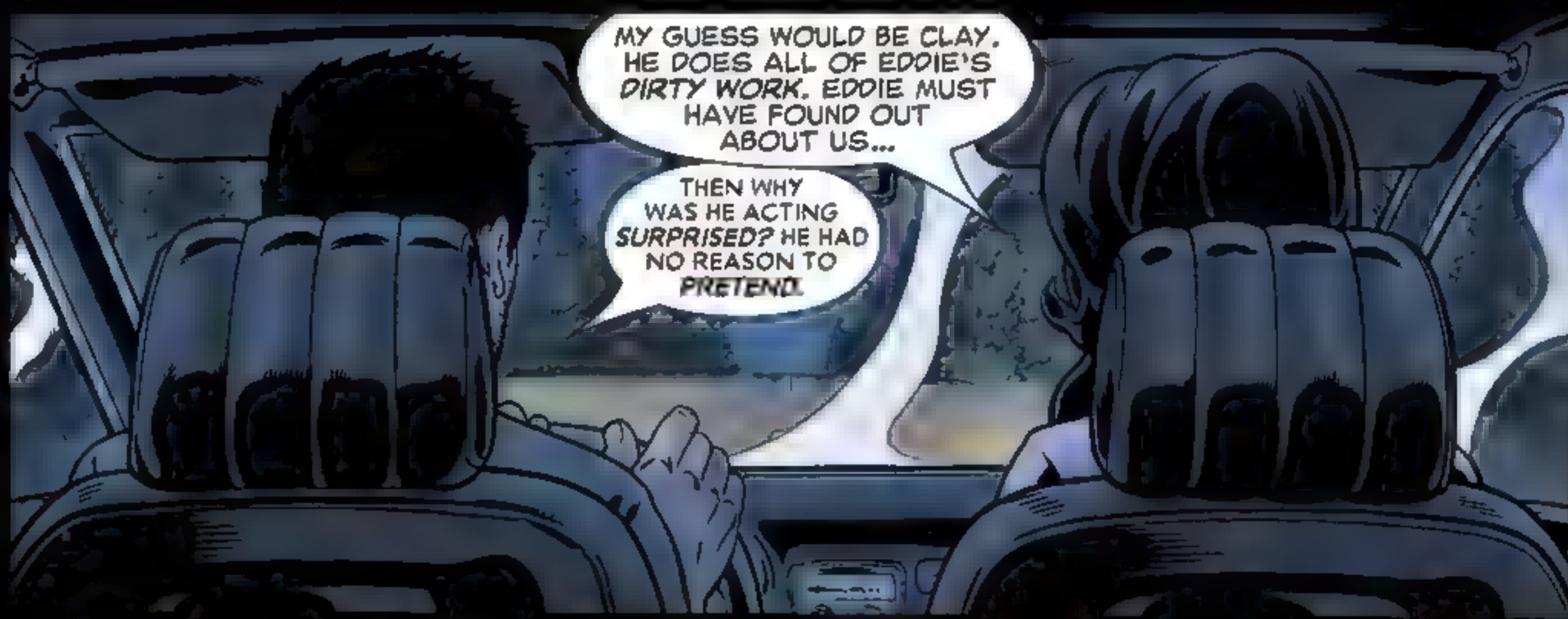
SOMEBODY STABBED HIM. HE DIED IN MY... ARMS, MY... MIND.

IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN.

STABBED!

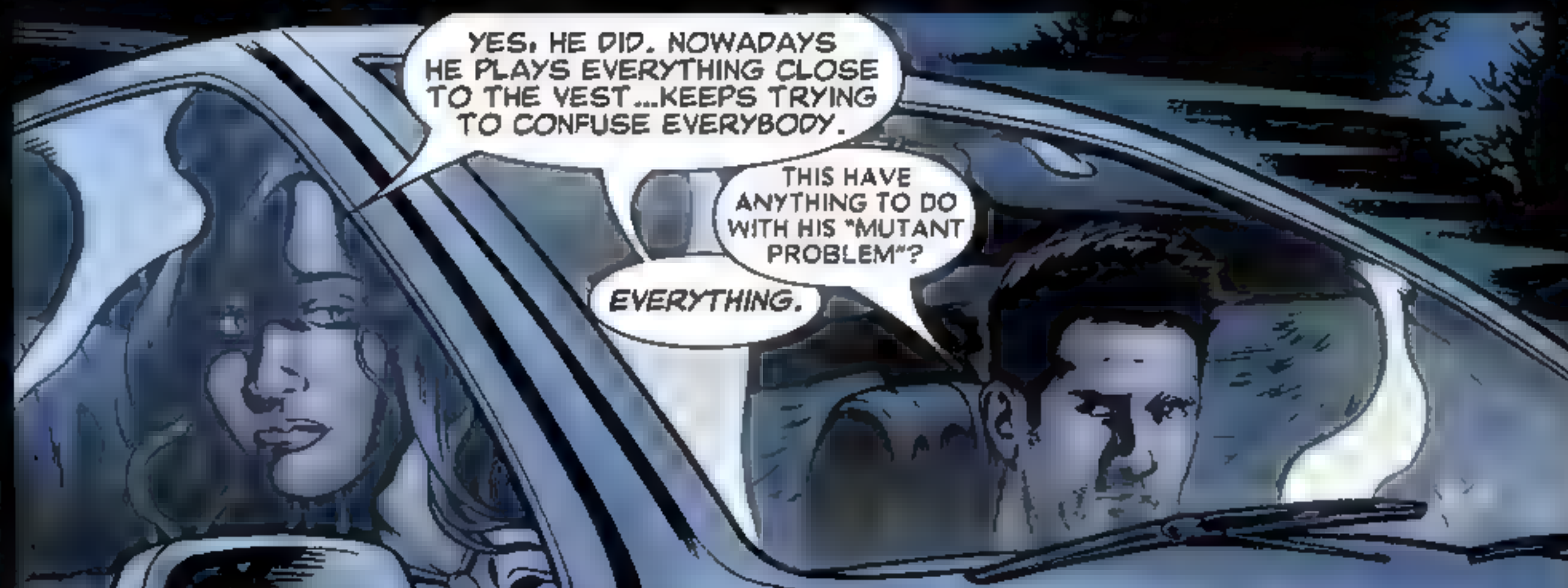
OH MY GOD!

HIS LAST MEMORIES LED ME HERE...TO YOU. I WANT TO FIND HIS KILLER.



MY GUESS WOULD BE CLAY. HE DOES ALL OF EDDIE'S DIRTY WORK. EDDIE MUST HAVE FOUND OUT ABOUT US...

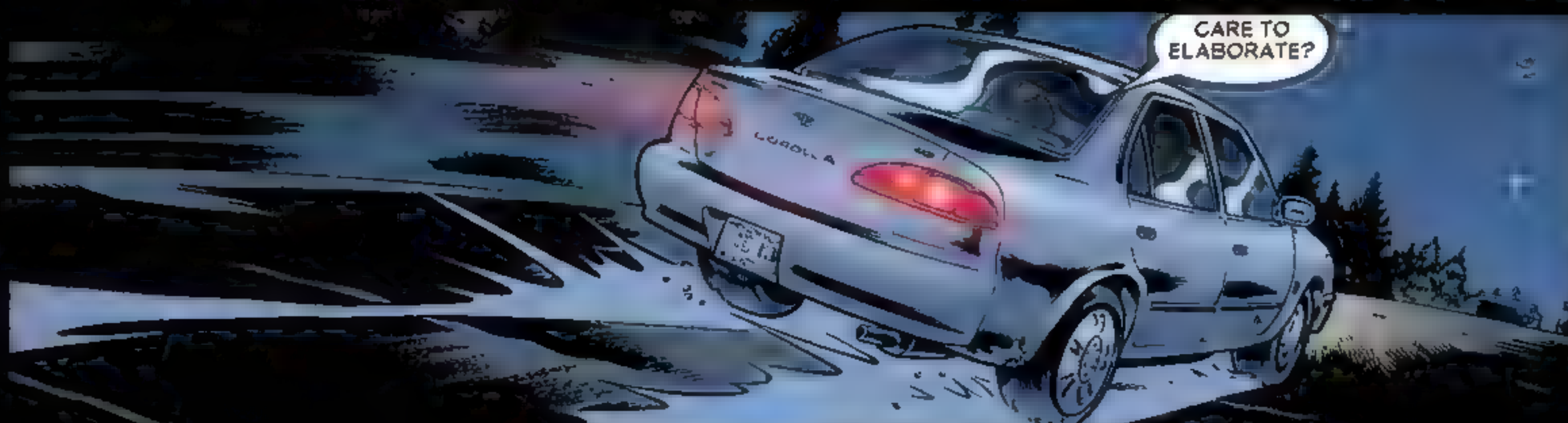
THEN WHY WAS HE ACTING SURPRISED? HE HAD NO REASON TO PRETEND.



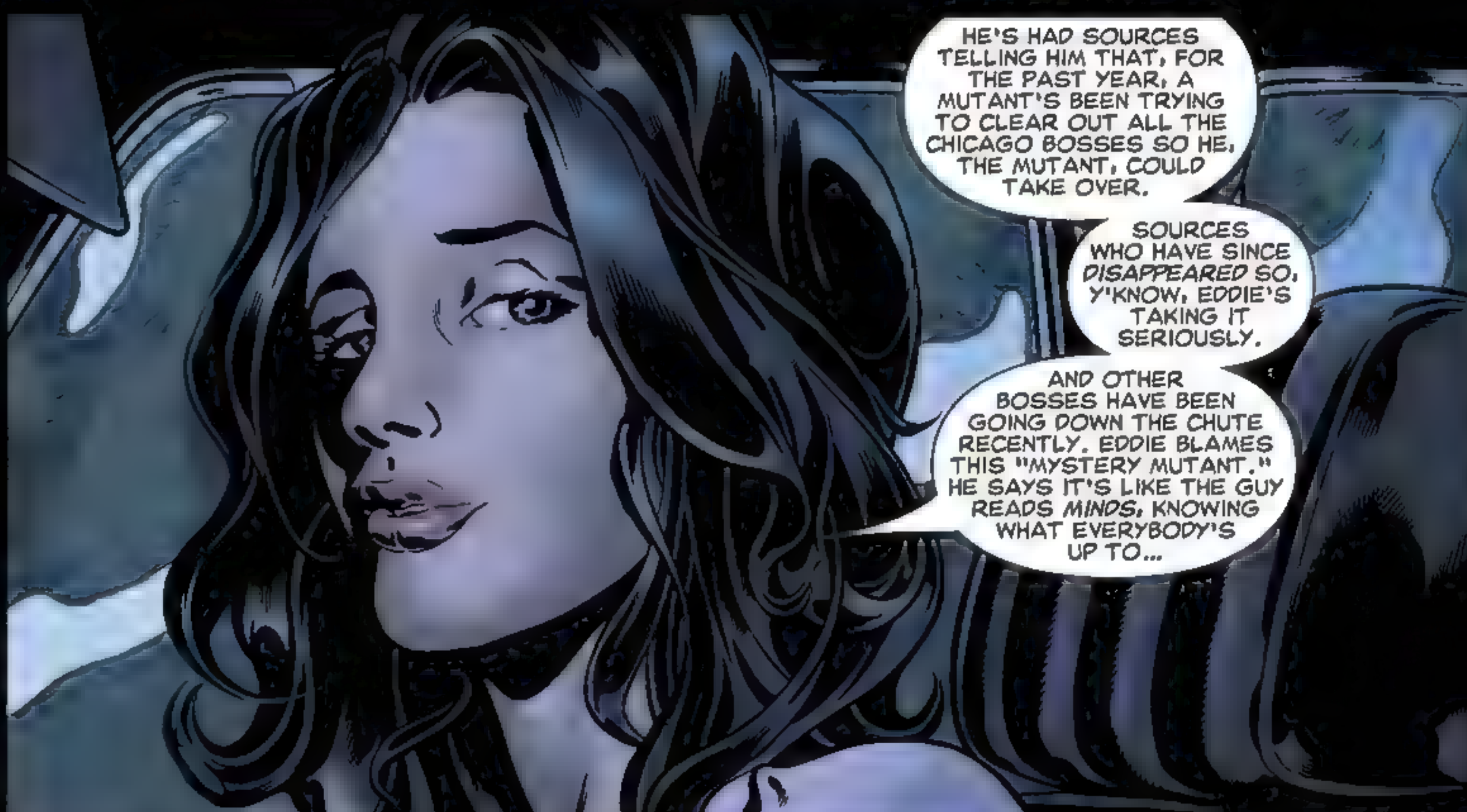
YES, HE DID. NOWADAYS HE PLAYS EVERYTHING CLOSE TO THE VEST...KEEPS TRYING TO CONFUSE EVERYBODY.

THIS HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH HIS "MUTANT PROBLEM"?

EVERYTHING.



CARE TO ELABORATE?



HE'S HAD SOURCES TELLING HIM THAT, FOR THE PAST YEAR, A MUTANT'S BEEN TRYING TO CLEAR OUT ALL THE CHICAGO BOSSES SO HE, THE MUTANT, COULD TAKE OVER.

SOURCES WHO HAVE SINCE DISAPPEARED SO, Y'KNOW, EDDIE'S TAKING IT SERIOUSLY.

AND OTHER BOSSES HAVE BEEN GOING DOWN THE CHUTE RECENTLY. EDDIE BLAMES THIS "MYSTERY MUTANT." HE SAYS IT'S LIKE THE GUY READS MINDS, KNOWING WHAT EVERYBODY'S UP TO...



SON OF
A--!

WHAT?
WHAT IS
IT?



WHY ARE
WE STOPPING
HERE?

IT'S WHERE
I'M STAYING. GO IN AND
ASK FOR A ROOM KEY. I'M
CHECKED IN UNDER THE
NAME "LEGION." YOU'LL
BE SAFE ENOUGH
HERE.

"LEGION?"
I DON'T
UNDERSTAND.

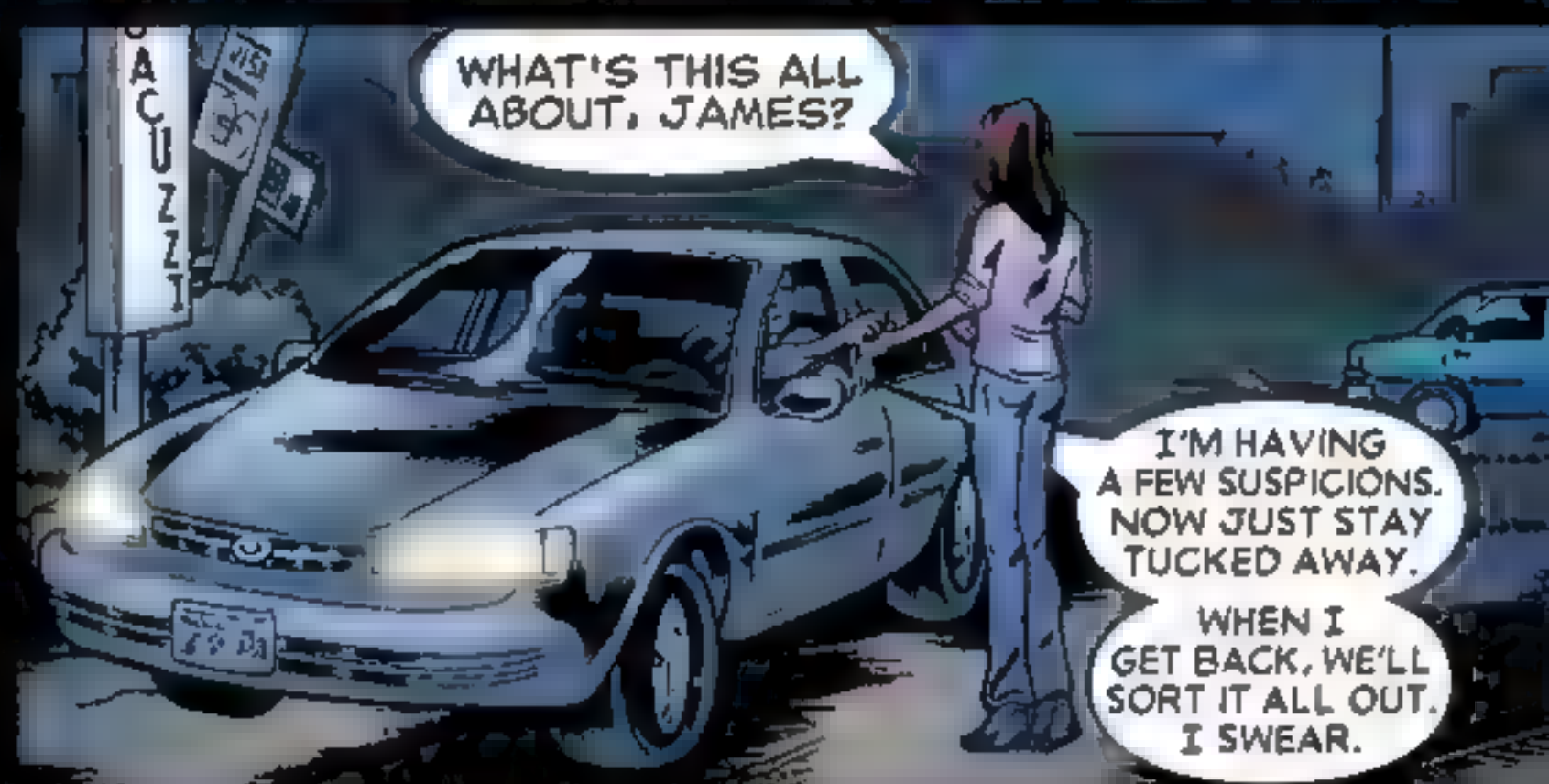
DON'T
SWEAT IT. YOU
GOT A CELL
PHONE?



HELLO, STRINGER? IT'S ME. LOOK,
WE GOTTA MEET SOMEWHERE PRIVATE.
NOW, GOT A MAJOR STORY FOR YOU.
ANOTHER PULITZER, I SWEAR.

NO, NOT
YOUR PLACE.
SOMEBODY MIGHT
BE WATCHING.

NEWSPAPER
WAREHOUSE AT THE
INTERSECTION OF OGDEN
AND CERMAK? YEAH, I
CAN FIND THAT. JUST
MAKE SURE NOBODY
FOLLOWS YOU.



WHAT'S THIS ALL
ABOUT, JAMES?

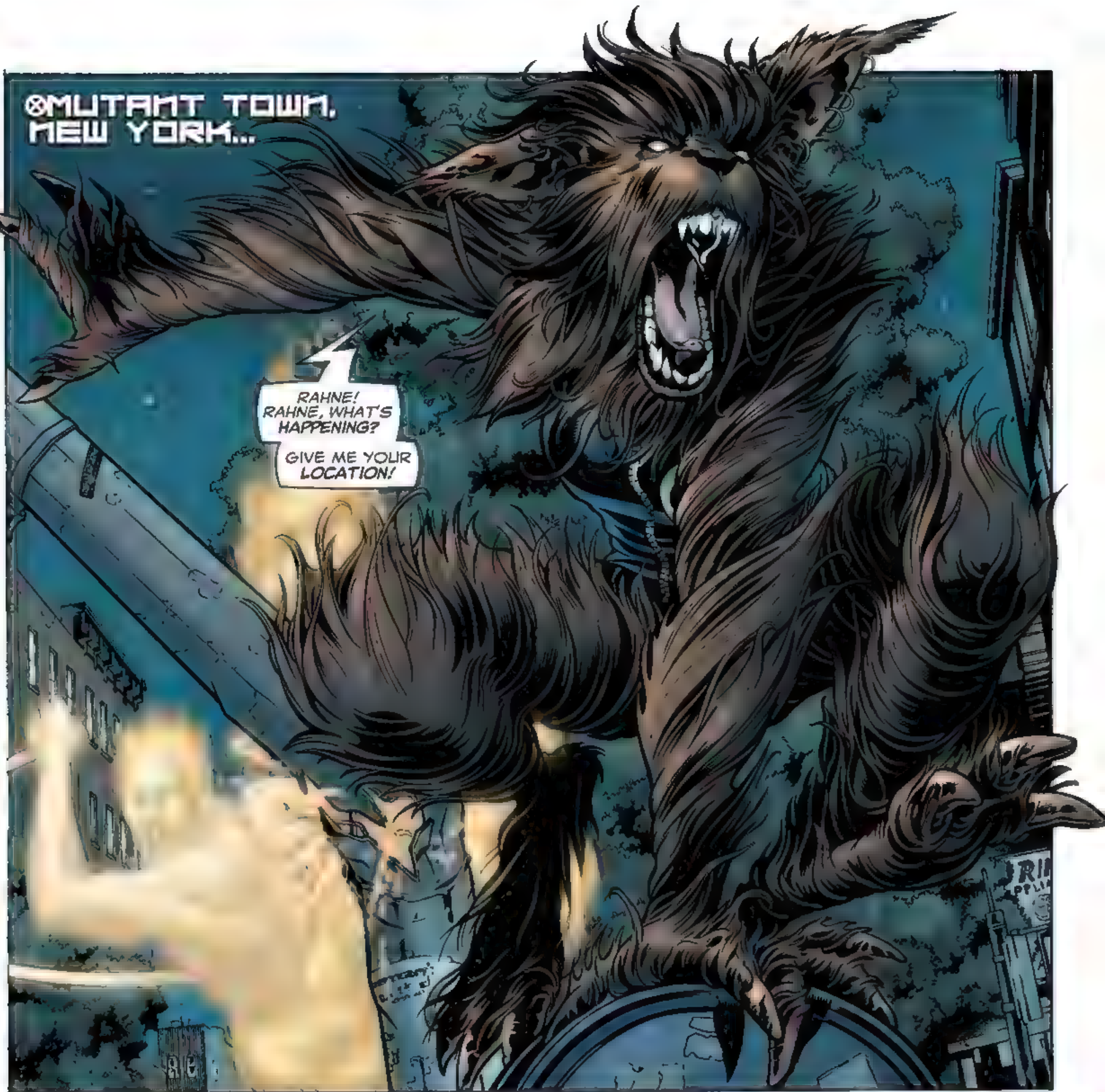
I'M HAVING
A FEW SUSPICIONS.
NOW JUST STAY
TUCKED AWAY.

WHEN I
GET BACK, WE'LL
SORT IT ALL OUT.
I SWEAR.



OD, I WAS SUCH AN
IDIOT. SO NAÏVE.

AS IF ANYTHING IN
MY LIFE COULD'VE
BEEN THAT SIMPLE.





CHICAGO...

OKAY, MADROX...
THIS BETTER BE A
SPECTACULAR STORY,
TO MAKE IT WORTH
MY WHILE...

OH, IT'S A
TERRIFIC STORY,
STRINGER.

IT'S THE STORY
OF A REPORTER WHO
CAN READ MINDS, AND
SECRETLY USED THAT
POWER TO GREAT
EFFECT.

EXCEPT NOBODY
SUSPECTED THAT WHILE
HE WAS USING IT TO SHUT
DOWN CRIMINAL
OPERATIONS OF GUYS
LIKE ONE "MR.
CAPETTI"...

...HE
WAS REALLY
CLEARING THE DECKS
SO HE COULD TAKE
OVER.

WHAT?!

SO HOW WERE
YOU GOING TO GET
RID OF VANCE? WAS
SHEILA THE KEY?

IS THIS WHAT YOU
DRAGGED ME OUTTA
BED FOR? SOME HALF-
WIT CONFRONTATION
SCENE LIKE OUTTA
ONE OF YOUR
"NOIR" MOVIES?!

YEAH, I
USE MY MIND-READING
POWER TO WRITE ABOUT
CRIME BOSSES! AND CROOKED
POLITICIANS AND LANDLORDS
AND WHOEVER ELSE!

BUT WHY WOULD
I WANNA TAKE OVER
THE RACKETS?

WHY DON'T
YOU TELL
ME?

IT'S NOT
MY THEORY,
YOU HALF-
WIT!

WELL? EXPLAIN
IT TO ME! C'MON,
FIRE AWAY!



RIGHT UP UNTIL HE SAID THAT... IN SOME WAYS...IT WAS ALL STILL A GAME TO ME.

JAMIE MADROX, P.I., DODGING DEATH WHILE DOGGING CLUES.

RIGHT UP UNTIL THE "FWOOOSH" FROM AN UNSEEN FLARE GUN HIT THE ROLLS OF BLANK NEWSPRINT.

MORE "FWOOSHES," MORE IGNITED ROLLS...



AND PRESTO... INSTANT DEATH TRAP.



IDIOT. IDIOT. PUTTING MY NECK ON THE LINE IS ONE THING...BUT NOW I'VE DRAGGED STRINGER INTO THIS.

SOMEONE'S TRYING TO KILL US BOTH. PROBABLY ONE OF VANCE'S PEOPLE.

HAVE TO FIGURE IT OUT LATER. HAVE TO FIND STRINGER.

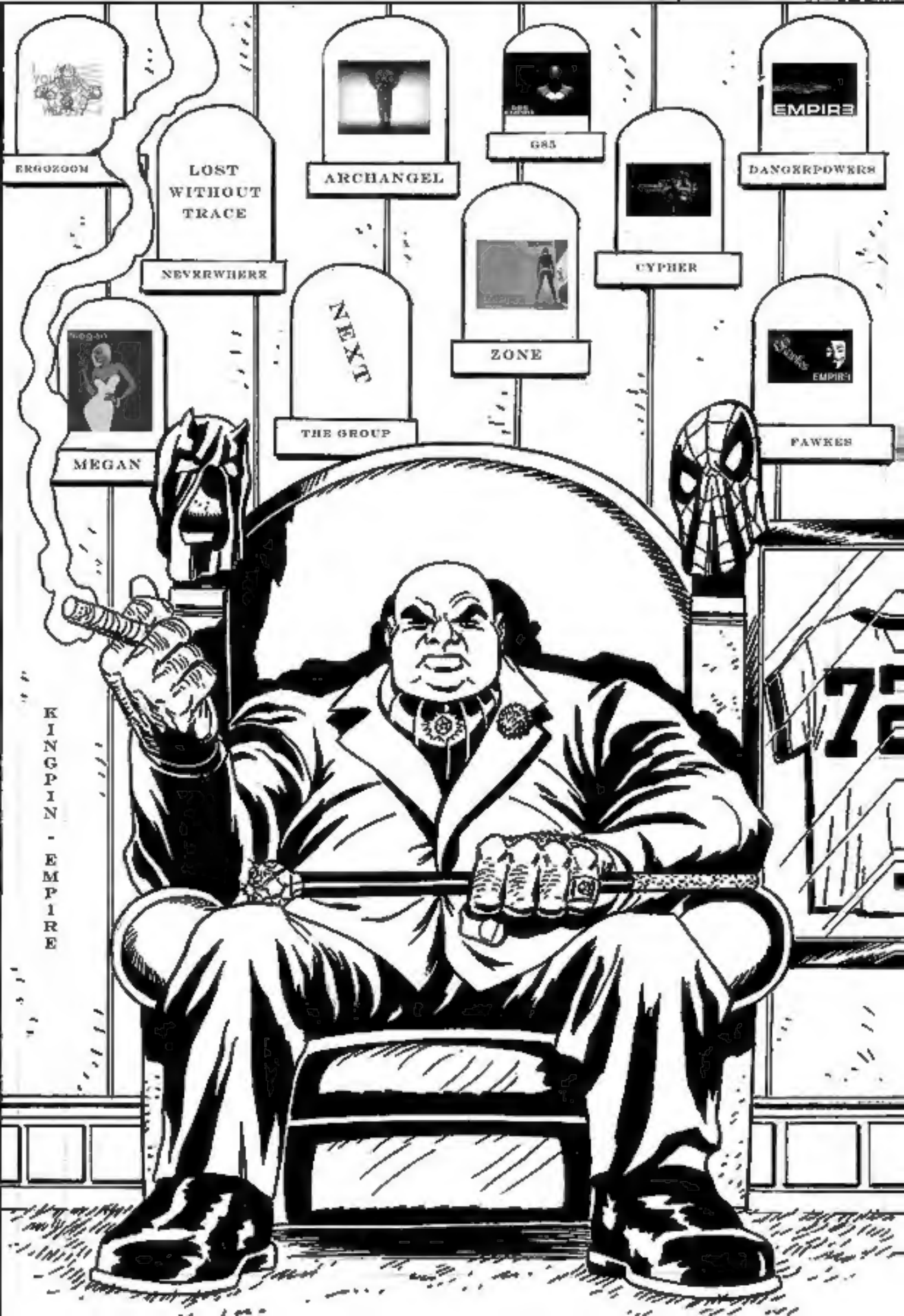
WHERE ARE YOU?!

C'MON! C'MON! WE GOTTA GET OUTTA HERE...

STRINGER!







ERGOZOOM

LOST
WITHOUT
TRACE

ARCHANGEL

G85

EMPIRE

DANGERPOWERS

NEVRRWHERE

CYPHER

ZONE

NEXT

THE GROUP

FAWKES

MEGAN

KINGPIN - EMPIRE

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